

BIG NEWS!

It is the Court's pleasure to announce the certification of the U.S. District Court Pro Bono Program by the Oregon State Bar Professional Liability Fund ("PLF"). Certification by the PLF allows pro bono participation to be covered under the PLF. This coverage applies to the activities of all attorneys who provide legal services on cases to which they are appointed through the Pro Bono Program, whether or not they carry personal PLF coverage. Professors, corporate counsel, retired attorneys, and other attorneys who do not carry PLF coverage are now able to volunteer with the Court's Pro Bono Program and rest assured that their involvement in the program is covered by the PLF.

The District of Oregon's pro bono panel is also certified by the Oregon State Bar. Hours spent representing individuals in Federal Court in Oregon now count toward Pro Bono Challenge, Honor Roll, and other OSB-sponsored programs. Attorneys are asked to track their hours spent on pro bono activities. An annual reporting form is available [here](#).

If you have any questions regarding the Pro Bono Panel, please contact the Court's Pro Bono Panel Administrator, Nicole Munoz, at (503) 326-8014.

Pro Bono Service in the District

Civil litigants may apply for *pro bono* representation by filing a Motion for Appointment of Pro Bono Counsel in an active case, or the Court may order appointment of a *pro bono*

attorney at its own discretion. The appointment may be for all purposes, for the limited purpose of reviewing the factual and legal basis of a plaintiff's complaint, or for any other Court-specified purpose (such as representation in alternative dispute resolution proceedings). Please review the

[Pro Bono Program](#)

outline and the

[Pro Bono Summary of Revised Procedures](#)

for more information.

An appointed attorney or firm shall have 12 days from the entry of the Order Appointing Pro Bono Counsel in which to inform the court of a conflict of interest. If no conflict exists, then counsel appointed for the limited purpose of reviewing claims shall have another 30 days (for a total of 42 days) to review the court file, conduct an appropriate investigation of the factual context of the complaint and the legal basis for plaintiff's claims. This type of appointment

provides the attorney with an opportunity to evaluate the validity of a plaintiff's complaint. On or before the forty-second day, the attorney must respond to the Order, and submit a written report to the plaintiff describing the factual context of the case, the basis of any claims, and an analysis of the potential to prevail in the suit.

Attorneys may apply for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred during a *pro bono* appointment by filing a

[Motion for Reimbursement](#)

with the Court. Current expense limits and other information related to policies is available in the Court's Pro Bono Representation Program Procedures.

In addition to individual attorneys, the following law firms have agreed to provide pro bono representation to litigants:

- Ball Janik, LLP
- Barran Liebman, LLP
- Frohnmayer Deatherage Jamieson Moore, Armosino & McGovern, P.C.
- Lane Powell, PC
- Larkins Vacura, LLP
- Lindsey Hart Neil & Wagner, LLP
- Miller Nash, LLP
- Stoel Rives, LLP
- Stoll Stoll Berne Lokting & Schlachter, PC
- Sussman Shank, LLP
- Tonkon Torp, LLP

Attorneys or law firms wishing to be added to the Pro Bono Representation Panel should contact Nicole Munoz, Pro Bono Administrator, at (503) 326-8014.